MICHIGAN MEDICAL MARILIANA NEWS & INFO

OCTOBER 2015 | VOL. 5 | ISSUE 9

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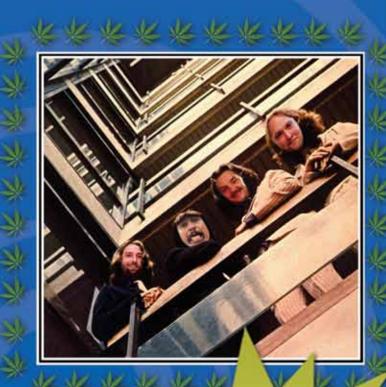












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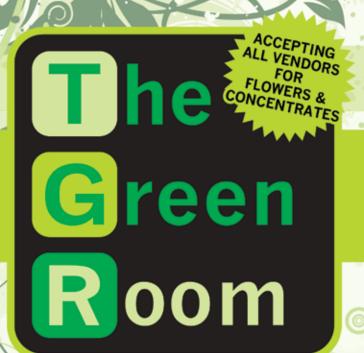












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NOTES

Hello Readers!

The cold chill of fall is upon us but things in the marijuana community are, as always, heating up. We want to give a huge welcome back to writer Adam Brook. We are excited to have him chip in his two cents in this and upcoming issues.

This month's Michigan News explains why state representative Jeff Irwin decided to join the legalization fight. John Sinclair discusses the failed war on drugs and the different policies that have been put in place in Michigan since medical marijuana was legalized.

Citizen Jay examines and warns about the dangers of genetically modified organisms and what they could mean for the cannabis community. He explains how GMOs work and why we should keep them out of our plants. Rebecca from New World Seeds writes about the plantain plant. She tells readers of the many healing benefits of this common herb, and includes step-by-step instructions of how to make your own healing alternative medication right in your own kitchen.

Also be sure to read this month's VGIP Update from Ben Horner, giving you the lowdown on the latest efforts made in Lansing and Gaylord.

Dan Price gives his opinion on why patients and caregivers should be wary of marijuana taxation. Hemptress Jolene reports on the raids that have been happening all over the state, as well as protests to end them and stop SANE. Marijuana Jones gets into the Halloween spirit by reporting on various 'smokerstitions' that seem to crop up from time to time.

Plus, don't miss our 10th MMM Conference feature with all the latest on this exciting event. All this and more awaits you in the pages of this month's MMM Report. Enjoy!

Please note:

Last month, we featured the winners of the recent High Times cannabis cup. We meant to highlight all of the winners from Michigan, but we failed to recognize LightSky Farms as a Michigan-based company. They took home awards for the 3rd place

CBD edible: CBDee's Strawberry Lemonade and the 2nd place Sativa concentrate: Romulan Grenades. We are proud of LightSky Farms and all the other Michigan brands that brought home trophies this year.

IGHTSKYFARMS

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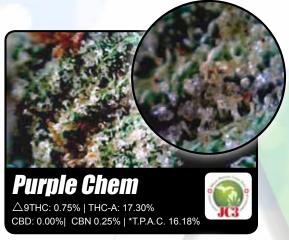




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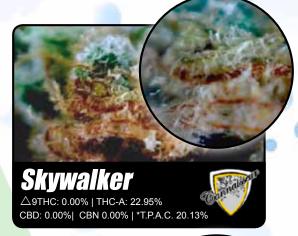
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Michigan News

PLURIBUS UNI

by Rachel Bunting



State Rep
Views Legalization
as 'Staying
Consistent with
American Values'
LANSING: On Thursday
September 17th,
Representative Jeff Irwin
introduced legislation
that, if approved and
passed, would legalize

and tax the private use

of marijuana for adults 21 and older. The Marijuana Legalization and Regulation Act (HB 4877) would allow residents of the state to grow a limited number of plants for personal use, but would restrict sales to licensed dispensaries only. It would, however, allow adults to transfer one ounce or less between themselves so long as no money is exchanged.

Irwin told the Michigan Daily that he sponsored the bill 'because he sees giving adults the right to make their own decisions as consistent with American values. The new bill would impose the usual 6 percent sales tax as well as an additional 5 percent excise tax on the whole sale market. The excise tax would increase by 1 percent each year capping at 10 percent after a 5 year period. According to a Michigan House Democrats press release, the revenue from the marijuana excise tax could total around \$100 million. Forty percent of that revenue would go to early childhood education; another forty percent would go to Michigan roads, while the final twenty percent would be put into funding for substance abuse treatment programs. Irwin feels that legalization would save money on the failure that is prohibition, and would keep the money out of the hands of criminals looking to sell on the black market.

Irwin also notes that while an increase in teen use is a concern among many, "the law has very little impact on what people choose to do. If you look at what's happening in Colorado, teen use is pretty much the same as what it was before legalization." There is a good chance that the bill will not pass, but according to a third-year law student, who is head of Law Students for Sensible Drug Policy, Irwin's bill could potentially add momentum to the debate in Michigan.

Lawsuit Filed Against the City of Warren

WARREN: Attorney Michael Greiner filed a lawsuit against the city of Warren on behalf of 23 medical marijuana patients this month. The suit demands up to \$5 million in damages for the patients, who claim they have been harassed and ticketed by Warren police. The lawsuit states that police had been stopping vehicles leaving the Michigan Safe Transfer Center, and questioning the drivers in what can be called an illegal roadblock with illegal searches. After two days of harassing people that have entered their business, the police raided the center and confiscated the owner's property without a warrant. Greiner, who is also part owner of the transfer center, said the business allows caregivers to provide medication to people who are officially registered with the state as patients. Greiner's business partner, Bryan Mazurkiewicz, explains, "We're not a walk-in clinic - that's why you can't call us a dispensary." The owners maintain that their business has been scrupulous about following the state laws, and registered medical-marijuana caregivers can only provide their medication to the five patients whose names they have listed with the state's Department of Licensing and Regulation. The center includes a patient consultation area, as well as four rooms where they grow marijuana "absolutely according to state law." Mazurkiewicz says, "Everything's locked, the paperwork is all there – stating whose plants they are – and no one has more marijuana than they're allowed to have." Plaintiffs against the city claim to have suffered "embarrassment, humiliation, stress, fear, nightmares, loss of income, and physical pain as a result of their inability to get needed medicine."





Dispensary Ordinance Proposed for Detroit

DETROIT: While medical marijuana in Michigan is legal, dispensaries that facilitate those medical patients are not mentioned in the MMMA and are therefore a gray area. Many in the city's council are working on an ordinance that would regulate dispensaries in the area. With no current regulation or licensing it is difficult to tell just how many of these stores are open in Detroit, though some guess the number is around 80. The proposal would set strict licensing requirements and would include a zoning code specifying which areas the businesses can be located in. The design would not set a cap on the number of dispensaries allowed within city limits, but all current operating dispensaries will be subject to the licensing process with no one 'grandfathered' in. One of the main reasons for concern over the issue of location is the over-saturation of shops in small areas of the city,

near schools, churches, and parks. Many residents feel that the number of pot-shops out numbering the amount of schools is sending kids the wrong message, that it is easier to score some weed than to get an education. But the new ordinance could help everyone find a happy middle ground by allowing the dispensaries but restricting where they can be located.

Another Reason to Never Trespass in Detroit

old man is in the hospital this month after police say he may have been trying to steal someone marijuana crop. The man was walking across a lot on the city's west side when he accidentally detonated

one of several booby-traps that were protecting a large caregiver grow area. The man heard many loud explosions before feeling pain in his foot caused by the blast. The man, who planted the explosives, was cooperating with authorities. The owner of the explosives told investigators that he was a caregiver growing medication for his patients and that he was in compliance with the law. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, however, says that information is not relevant to the case because of the explosives. He is expected to face federal explosives charges.



Daily Marijuana Use Surpasses Cigarettes Among College Students

ANN ARBOR: The University of

Michigan in Ann Arbor has been continually conducting research for the Monitoring the Future study. The study recently found that, nationally, daily marijuana use among college students is surpassing daily cigarette smoking. Nearly 5.9 percent of college students report daily or near-daily marijuana use, a rate that is up from 3.5 percent in 2007. This results mean that one in every 17 college students is smoking marijuana on a daily or near-daily basis. The study also found an increase in other areas related to marijuana use. Reporting that they have used the substance within the last 30 days rose from 17 percent in 2006 to 21 percent in 2014. A lead researcher in the study, Lloyd Johnston, believes a possible reason for the increase is the fact that fewer adolescents and young adults view marijuana as dangerous. They found that while 55 percent of 19-22 year olds saw daily marijuana use as dangerous in 2006, only about 35% saw it as dangerous by 2014. Monitoring the Future, an annual survey, has been reporting on US college students' substance use for 35 years.



Synthetic Family

STERLING HEIGHTS: Six members of the same family were arrested and charged with delivery and manufacture of a non-narcotic drug and maintaining a drug house after police searched their gas station, tobacco stores, and other stores in the area (all owned by the same family). The businesses were searched after suspicions arose that they were selling the substance "spice" or synthetic marijuana. Synthetic marijuana, in its purest form, is made up of synthetic chemical compounds that are made up of oils or solids. This chemical compound is then sprayed onto a mixture of dried herbs and spices before being distributed. Ingestion of this substance can cause everything from heart palpitations to psychosis or even death. The most recent sentencing of one family member, 42 year old David Dabish, set his jail time at 2 months with 18 months' probation.



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"WHERE IS THE LOVE?"

National News

by Rachel Bunting



"It's like Putting Blood in the Water for Sharks"

MARYLAND: Medical marijuana has been made legal in Maryland, but the state has left it up to the counties to set their own regulations on growing and selling operations. According to ABC2 News, executive Steve Schuh of Anne Arundel County seems to have already made

up his mind about what will be happening in his county stating,

"I believe Maryland law is a Trojan horse that introduces the recreational use of marijuana on a wide scale basis to this county if we were to adopt a permissive approach to medical marijuana." Schuh went on to say that he does not want to prevent any person from getting medical marijuana for an illness if they need it, but that they will not find it in his county if he gets his way. Schuh also has a problem with the dosage of medical marijuana allowed under the state's law. With the new law patients are able to be prescribed between 8 to 10 joints a day, or 200 to 300 in a month. Schuh believes the amount allotted to patients is "an invitation to selling and also an invitation to crime".

County police Chief Timothy Altomare says the prescribed amount can be equal to about \$2,000-\$3,000. Altomare agrees with Schuh, and is also worried about possible increased criminal activity in the county, telling ABC2, "We have a fairly robust criminal element in this state that will kill somebody for \$50, \$100, or \$500. So when you talk about the value of that product walking out, I think it's like putting blood in the water for sharks."

Slow Numbers for Minnesota

MINNESOTA: After two months of being up-and-running, Minnesota's medical marijuana program only has 460 patients registered with the Health Department's Office of Medical Cannabis (OMC), but those numbers have been steadily

increasing according to the head of the OMC, Michelle Larson, Larson believes the numbers have been and will continue to increase as people become more educated and familiar with the program. She also tells the Star Tribune that it's unfair to compare Minnesota's numbers with those from the programs in other states as the rules for each medical program is different. Currently Minnesota does have one of the most restrictive medical marijuana programs in the nation. Their law allows for only eight marijuana dispensaries statewide, and the medication can only be provided in pill or liquid form to patients suffering from at least one of the only nine qualifying conditions. Since the enrollment numbers are so low, one of the two companies authorized by the state to grow and sell the medication is going to delay the opening of two new stores until next year. The Health Department is considering adding intractable pain to the program, which would open the doors for thousands of new patients suffering from pain not already associated with cancer, terminal illness, or seizure disorders. The department is staging hearings around the state to hear public opinions on the addition.



No More Conditions Added for Illinois Medical Marijuana Program

ILLINOIS: Since medical marijuana was passed in Illinois in 2013 over 3,000 people have applied for, and received, permission from the state to use medical marijuana. Gov. Bruce Rauner is trying to slightly close the gates for medical cards by vetoing Bill 39, which would have put post-traumatic stress disorder on the list of qualifying ailments, while the Illinois Department of Public Health also denied an additional 10 conditions proposed by the Medical Cannabis Advisory Board, including anorexia nervosa, chronic postoperative pain, migraine headaches, and irritable bowel syndrome. In his veto message the Governor stated he believes adding more conditions or diseases is premature and points out that no current patients will be served until late this year and as a result "the state has not had the opportunity to evaluate the benefits and costs of the pilot program or determine areas for improvement or even whether to extend the program beyond its pilot period" (Huffington Post). Currently the Rauner administration and the leader of the pilot program, Democratic Representative Lou Lang are discussing a possible middle ground.



Good-bye Gas and Gulp, Hello Gas and Grass

COLORADO: As Colorado seems to be the leader of the marijuana industry, it is only fitting that they be the first to offer Gas and Grass. Two gas stations at which patients may buy medical marijuana will be opening in October. A

spokesman for Native Roots, the company opening the stores, tells 10WAVY the plan "gave the opportunity to potentially take a stop off their trips and give them one more opportunity to shop with us." While some shoppers are excited about the idea saying, "It continues the convenience store idea with one stop shopping." There are others that feel the idea is condoning impaired driving but Native Roots insists public safety is its priority and a supporter of the idea points out it shouldn't be "any more of a concern than going to a liquor store an buying a bottle of booze right there. You have just as much accessibility to drink it in your car than you do at home, so it just has to be the responsibility of the person to be honest and responsible and not do stuff like that."





Cat Caught in Cannabis Caper

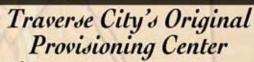
OREGON: A literal cat-burglar, Tigger, belongs, ironically, to West Linn Police Sgt. Dave Kempas. Kampas first discovered his cat's mischievous ways four years ago when toys and trash began showing up on his porch with the newspaper every morning. The Sgt. Was especially surprised one morning to find that Tigger, renamed the more appropriate Kleptokitty, had left a bag of marijuana next to his morning paper. Kampas told WISH-TV 8 he scolded his pet for bringing home illegal substances and threw it out, but donates all the toys with any value to charity. Coincidentally this isn't the first Kleptokitty the Sgt. has owned, as his previous feline, Buddy, would often steal his neighbors gardening gloves and lawn items.



A Whole New Landscape for California Pot Businesses CALIFORNIA: A new package of medical marijuana bills is currently sitting on

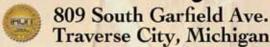
the desk of Governor Jerry Brown which, if signed, would change the way marijuana businesses in the state operate. Senate Bill 643 and Assembly Bills 266 and 243 would add regulation to almost every aspect of the medical marijuana industry. SB 643 would crack down on clinics that specialize in issuing medical marijuana recommendations to residents without valid health needs and would create pesticide standards for pot plants and labeling requirements for edibles. AB 266 would establish a Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation to oversee licensing and operating rules for growers, product producers, and retail shops.

Finally AB 243 would authorize the state to use licensing fees to carry out the framework and a fund for helping local governments address environmental problems associated with growing marijuana. Under the proposed law, everyone from growers to distributors to those that simply store the plants would be required to have a separate license for each, in all there would be 17 different license categories. The current owner of Cannacare, Lanette Davies, explains how this would drastically change her business. Currently Davies picks up her plants from a local farmer, however if the new laws go into effect she will be required to have someone bring the plants to her as she wouldn't have the license to store the plants, just to sell them. She also says that certain products, such as edibles, would be gone as the person that currently makes them for her would not be licensed. The Governor would appoint a medical marijuana regulation chief to oversee the industry and counties would be able to impose their own taxes on dispensaries. If signed the new provisions would not take place until 2018, while the state is expected to vote on recreational marijuana in 2016.





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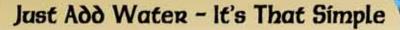
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World News by Rachel Bunting



Testing the Benefits of Marijuana Without the Illegality of Growing

GERMANY: Scientists around the world acknowledge that there is something medicinally beneficial about the cannabis plant, but continue to scratch their heads as to what in the plant cures which ailment. While several studies have shown cannabinoids in marijuana can be effective at treating ailments such as seizures, scientists and physicians say that without knowing which chemical specifically works, they are essentially prescribing a drug cocktail knowing at least one will work. But researchers in Germany may have unlocked the key to studying marijuana and its properties. The researchers found that they can use genetically modified yeast to generate the chemicals found in marijuana, including THC. This could potentially give scientists the ability to produce and individually test over 80 of the drugs chemicals.





Leave it to Pot Lovers to Create their own Namia

LONDON: Police began searching a piece of property outside of London, trying to locate a suspect in an assault case. However, in their search, rather than finding upon their suspect, they stumbled across a 6ft wardrobe with a hole in its ceiling leading to the loft above. Using a chair, which was already found in the wardrobe beneath the hole, the officers climbed into the loft and discovered a magical world of marijuana plants. The loft housed a massive grow of over 600 plants and lighting equipment. Two men were arrested at the residence on suspicion of cultivating cannabis. According to London 24, social media is already lighting up about the find with one user writing, "Wow, Narnia's changed a bit since I was a kid..."

Community Service for Woman Trying to Help Dying Husband

ENGLAND: A woman who pled guilty

to one count producing cannabis and two counts of possession with intent to supply has been sentenced to 18 months of community service after a judge determined she was not involved in trying to distribute commercially. Jeanette Hurst was found to be growing cannabis worth £34,000 to extract the oil for her husband, who is dying of cancer. An anonymous tip about a strong odor of marijuana led police to check her home, finding over 1.7kg of plant material and over 16 plants. At her sentencing the judge stated, "It seems to me that the vast majority of cases that I have to deal with involved the growing or possessing with intent to supply with a commercial or similar element and it was sold for profit. This is not that sort of case." However, the judge also warned Hurst that if she were to do it again she would likely face a lengthy prison sentence.

Cannabis Turf Dispute

Leads to Gang Violence

CHINA: Two factions of the Wo Shing Wo Triad society have been causing problems at a busy railway platform.

The gangs are believed to be responsible for a knife attack that occurred at the railway station during rush hour, leaving three men injured. Investigators believe six Yuen Long faction members waited at the platform for the eight members of the rival gang, Yau Ma Tei, to exit the train before attacking them with beef knives and fleeing the scene. One of the causes of the ongoing gang war is the sale of marijuana and gang members selling on one another's "turf". Police in the area have stated that they will be stepping up surveillance and raiding the venues where the gangs generally meet. Currently there are eight suspects from the knife attacks still at large.



Cannabis and Schizophrenia

UK: A UK based pharmaceuticals company, GW Pharmaceuticals Plc, has been granted permission to begin using cannabidiol, or CBD, as an experimental drug to treat schizophrenia. According to the Mayo-Clinic definition, schizophrenia is a severe brain disorder in which people interpret reality abnormally. It may result in some combination of hallucinations, delusions, and extremely disordered thinking and behavior. While many people with schizophrenia respond well to antipsychotic meds, there are some that have little to no improvement from them. GW tested the CBD on 88 patients with schizophrenia and who had not responded to any type of anti-psychotic. During the trial the patients remained on their anti-psychotic medication and received doses of either cannabidiol or a placebo. While testing is currently in its mid-trial stage, results so far are showing CBD as superior to the placebo in helping boost the effectiveness of the anti-psychotic medication in schizophrenic individuals. GW is also testing the cannabis based drug on people with cancerrelated pain, epilepsy, and treating newborn children with neonatal hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy (NHIE), NHIE is acute or sub-acute brain injury due to asphyxia caused during the birth process and resulting from deprivation of oxygen during birth.



And the Most Commonly Used Drug in Northern Ireland Is....

IRELAND: According to the Irish News a recent survey found the most commonly used illegal substance in Northern Ireland is cannabis. While prescription drugs are becoming an increasing problem in the country, with nearly 1/5 of those surveyed having taken them recently, police are trying to crack down on illegal drug dealing and consumption within their local communities and are constantly asking for the public to report any suspicious activity. The illegal drug activity would mostly consist of marijuana dealers as prescription drugs, such as codeine and morphine, are considered the "legal high", making it harder for police to disrupt.







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GOU FI

Protecting Your Grow from Future Raids

by Ben Horner

What is worse then mites and powdery mildew? Law enforcement, legislators, lobbyists and investors want to take away your right grow and transfer cannabis. Michigan Growers, its time to expand your growing skills outside of the garden. Ever since medical marijuana has been enacted into law, more and more people have become cannabis growers. Hundreds of grow stores have opened in Michigan over the last 5 years to sell us lights, nutrients and other supplies for our grows.

Most growers in the state have been doing so with a patient or caregiver license for medical purposes. They transfer their overages to qualified patients and dispensaries around the state. Others have been doing so for many years prior the passing of MMMA, and will continue to do so illegally. On September 22nd, the House Judiciary Committee passed an amended version of HB 4209, now called the Medical Marijuana Faculties Act. Last year the bills allowed every caregiver to transfer up to 60 ounces every 60 days, now when these bills pass only state licensed growers (Class A 500 plants. Class B 1000 plants, Class C 1500 plants) which must pay an excise tax of 8% and use an armored car transportation service to deliver the raw herb to processing centers and provisioning centers. At the hearing, a spokesperson for the sheriffs association insisted that for the bills to work that the caregivers and home grows should be eliminated.

Many owners of dispensaries, mostly from Detroit, have negotiated this deal with the help of the MRC, MDCA, NPRA and the MCC. They are trying to sell you out to law enforcement. They know that once they are the only legal supplier that market will spike, people will go underground and law enforcement will be targeting every caregiver in the state. Growers will go to jail by the thousands feeding the police budget. The price of medical marijuana will increase temporarily allowing the dispensaries that sell out the caregivers to make windfall profits and reinvest in commercial cultivation.



You have two options:



1.) Call or write your lawmakers and tell them to add caregivers back into the program and don't charge them an 8% excise tax. Donate to the Cannabis

Stakeholders Group (CSG) and participate in meetings that will help protect you. If you have any questions about CSG check out the website: www.cannabisstakeholdersgroup.org

2.) Establish a commercial grow. Review the pending legislations and position yourself to get one of those commercial cultivation licenses.

I think this is the best grow tip for Michigan growers right now. Good luck!

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VGIP UPDATE:

Working in Lansing and Gaylord

by Ben Horner



In Gaylord, dispensary owners and I met with the mayor and city attorney to discuss the proposed zoning ordinance. The meeting was both frank and productive. An understanding was established that the proposed ordinance was to be sent to planning, and a public hearing on the matter would happen soon. Chad Marrow and Al Witt are the two men most responsible for this progress in the city of Gaylord. Al, Chad, Vivian, and Frank are standing up for their patients and caregivers by resisting the county prosecutor and educating their community leaders.

In the capitol, hearings on dispensary bills further polarized people's views on cannabis law reform in regards to medical marijuana. Representing the dispensaries and the establishment was NPRA, MDCA, MCC and the MRC who supported amendments to do the following:



- 1.) Create a 8% excise tax on all cannabis and cannabis products.
- 2.) Create an additional 6% sales tax on all cannabis and cannabis related product sales
- 3.) Create a licenses for: 3 levels of commercial grows, armored transport to create separation and transparency between cultivation and retail, provisioning centers (aka dispensaries), testing labs, and processing centers for edibles, extracts and related products.
- 4.) Creates a seed to sale tracking System ran by MJ Freeway.
- 5.) A system that mirrors the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC), creating a board appointed by the government to regulate all cannabis.
- 6.) Remove all Caregivers and home grows from participating. (Last year every caregiver could sell 60 ounces every 60 days directly to the dispensaries)



Matt Able from Cannabis Council issued a position paper that brought concern regarding these matters. I spoke on behalf of CSG, and was the only dispensary owner there questioning these amendments. Two days later a few dozen caregivers met at the capitol to participate in the VGIP lobby days.

Adam Brook, Tim Locke, Carrie Justice, Hemptress Jolene and several others spoke to several of our lawmakers. Jeff Irwin who attempted to remove the excise taxes and armored cars from the bills, but failed to get the needed votes, met us on the capitol steps.

We asked Jeff Irwin, how can caregivers get back into the bills and reduce taxes? Jeff's response was, "It is going to be very difficult. The people pushing for these restrictions have a lot of money. Their only chance is for patients and caregivers to organize and speak to their House Reps and Senators."

Richard Clement has been active in Detroit and Michigan marijuana law reform with a special interest in African Americans.

Richard asks business owners in Detroit, "If you have a drive-thru you better show up. The meeting is on Monday morning at 10am, October 12th, please show up. If you cannot, please write mail, write."

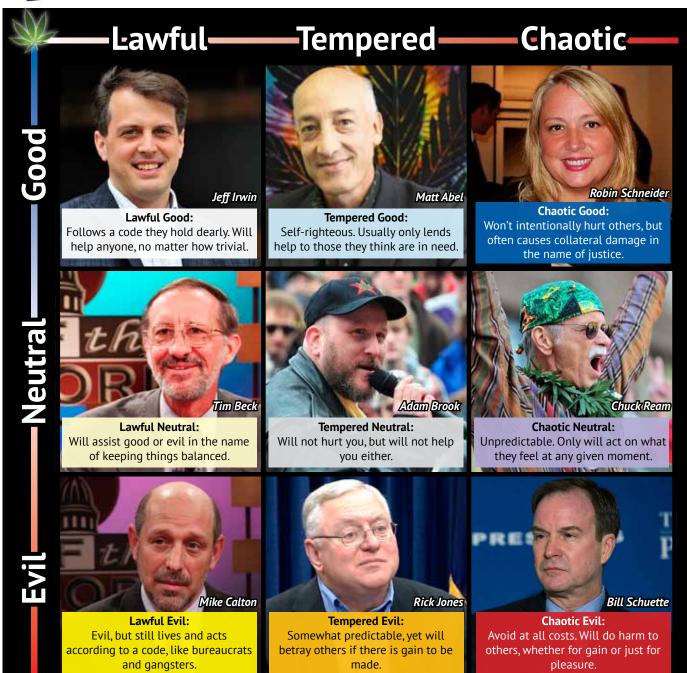
Richard Clement stated, "Some type of regulation is good. Licensing fees that give back to the community. Everyone should receive a fair shot for local small business owners. But in the end only the strong will survive. We need a community benefit plan. These dispensaries need to help the city, for example "Pot for Potholes", or maybe funding a few recreation centers that have had to close due to underfunding. Pensioners could also use some assistance."

"We have made a lot of progress, most people are not being arrested for being regular consumers, and we have freed up law enforcement. If Detroit does things right we have a huge opportunity to benefit the local economy. I am very proud of the progress we have made so far on cannabis law reform."





Michigan Marijuana Reform Alignment Chart



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Gaylord Update: New Ordinance Headed to City Council

GAYLORD, MICHIGAN:

Since the raids in Gaylord in March, Alan Witt and his friends have been busy. First figuring out how to fight their charges and then figuring out how

to protect their business. "The raids were eye opening for everyone here is Gaylord." said a survivor who wished not to be named. The group decided to collaborate with Ben Horner. Together, the group wrote an ordinance to define provisioning centers within the city limits of Gaylord. The ordinance defines a provisioning centers as places where 25% of the premise is being used for medical marihuana cultivation. The centers are allowed to have up to three caregivers cultivating together, and are allowed to dispense cannabis to qualified patients. This ordinance would give them some guidelines under which to operate, a definition and approval of the public. To make this ordinance a reality, volunteers began collecting signatures.

With the new ordinance in hand, Witt and his group went door to door collecting signatures. They needed 10% of the population of the city for the petition to be successful, which meant they needed 287. The group went out asking around town, and then started knocking on doors to meet their goal. All in all the group collected 600 signatures, and of those, 317 were valid. Success. The ordinance is now headed before the City Council. "It was way easier than we thought it would be, it really only took us three days of hard work. It feel pretty good we were able to make some movement." Witt said.

Alan has many meeting coming up with lawyers and the City Council, but it seems that the hard part is done. His partner, Chad Marrow, is also excited by the change they were able to make in their community. They are looking forward to having clear guidelines under which to run their business and assisting patients gain access to valuable medicine. They plan on fighting their charges from the March raids.



U.P. Provision Center Gives Back to the Community

DAGGETT, MICHIGAN: What kind of impact can a provisioning center do to a community? Well to the village of Daggett, MI (pop. 248), which is listed as one of the 10 poorest communities in Michigan, (with an average income of just over \$9,900 a vear) Clover-Land has made quite a positive impact. Now

instead of being a pass through eye-blink, Daggett has become a destination for hundreds of MMJ cardholders each month.

"The village seems more alive and active" states one of Clover-Land's neighbors. Originally worried at the onset, the neighbor now praises Clover-Land for their contributions to the community. Contributions made both monetarily and physically, through donations to the Daggett Volunteer Fire Dept including half their prize money from the 1st UPGC Cup, collecting and matching donations for the new youth T-Ball field fence, and even partnering on a new giant sized sandbox located in the local park have been a few of things that Clover-Land has accomplished since opening their doors in July 2014. And the reach extends outward from the village as Clover-Land provides MMJ cardholders from around the Upper Peninsula, lower Michigan, and qualifying visiting patients

from around the U.S. a comfortable, friendly, safe, educated environment to access information, supplies/ accessories and quality medical strains.

Kurt Johnson, owner/ operator, offers the thought that "every dollar brought into the village is like a thousand dollars to other locales. In a bigger city many wouldn't really see, feel

or notice the ways we are trying to give back, but here in our little corner of Yooper-tucky everybody sees everything and they realize we're here to help." Kurt and a community of Clover-Land supporters look forward to within the next year of relighting the many decades dark Daggett Village Arrow, being the major sponsor of the 2016 Fourth of July celebration, and continuing support of the local Fire Department and other local charities.



MICHIGAN & MARIJUANA

Business Seminar

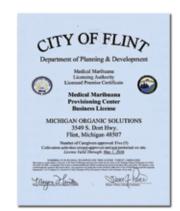


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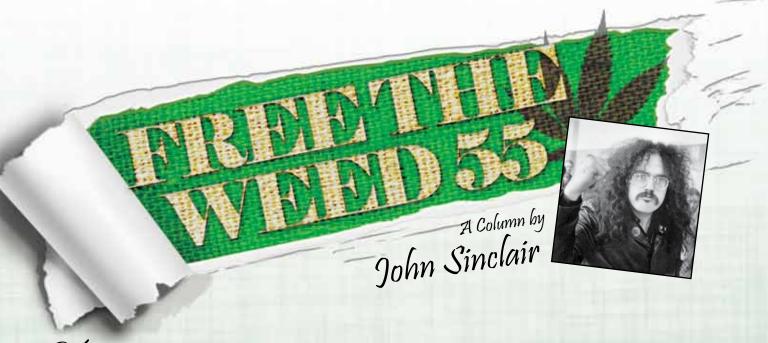
Place: The 10th Michigan Medical Marijuana Conference at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



For more info, call: 810.820.8953 www.mmmrmag.com/seminar.html







ighest greetings from the northeast side of Detroit, where I'm visiting with my daughter Sunny and granddaughter Beyonce and waiting right now to schedule a required foot operation that promises to restore much of my personal mobility that's been shackled for most of the present year by a diabetic wound on my left foot that has refused to heal.

My several doctors say that portions of infected bones in my foot—sadly including my small toe—must be removed so that the flesh may heal, and then I'll be off my feet for another month of recovery time. I've had to cancel all my potential performance work and my entire trip to Chicago, Memphis and New Orleans in order to attend to this problem.

I'm hoping to be healed up enough by the middle of November to get back to Amsterdam for what will be the city's first year without a Cannabis Cup for more

than three decades. The High Times entrepreneurs seem to have given up on the Dam after suffering several years of problems with local authorities on venue and licensing issues. One year the site of the exposition was

raided by a force

of 150 police—a veritable army by Dutch standards—and last year the expo site was shut down completely before the event could open.

Thus the *High Times* international Cannabis Cup will be staged earlier in November this year in Jamaica instead of Amsterdam. The magazine's wildly popular Medical Cannabis Cups in California, Michigan and elsewhere, and its new Cannabis Cup festivities with legalized weed in Colorado, Washington and Oregon have replaced the Amsterdam event as profit centers.

With the Cannabis Cup, as with the cannabis culture as a whole, what began as a lark in the face of severe oppression by the authorities has now become Big Business. What was all about getting high and having a ball and being creative and innovative is now about contests between products and how many people will

pay how much to attend a cannabis exposition of products after products to be sold to a maximum number of consumers.

My view is not the popular one, but that's not what they pay me for. I'm an old curmudgeon and an elder who was there at the beginning of our movement, and my job is to point out what's gone right or wrong as our long grass-roots movement is now beginning to emerge triumphant.

What's absolutely right, of course, is that very soon we won't be getting arrested or harassed in any way by the police for smoking marijuana. The hated drug police will be removed from our lives and we'll be left to deal with the people standing behind them and propping them up—the vicious office-holding politicians who have used the phony issue of marijuana illegalization to create an incredible power base in the law enforcement community and the relentless engine for the War On Drugs.

The dismantling of the machinery of the War On Drugs is a formidable task at the very forefront of our agenda, and as we have seen here in Michigan the legislators and the law enforcement community will drag their heels and resist legal changes mandated by the voters with all their might for as long as they can get away with it. They've had a good thing going for themselves ever since they dreamed up the marijuana illegalization mythology some 80 years ago, and they're not going to give it up until they have absolutely no further choice.

How good is this thing they've had? I hate to sound like a broken record, but it's all been sleight-of-hand and smoke-and-mirrors from the beginning. As first

instituted by Commissioner of Narcotics Harry Anslinger in the 1930s and then as upgraded by Richard M. Nixon and his gang in the 1970s, the war on marijuana and then the War On Drugs have been conceived and executed as a precise form of attack on people outside the mainstream of American culture: African-Americans, Mexicans, jazz musicians, poets and outsiders of every stripe—exactly the people who introduced us to the joys of marijuana and kept the pipe lit until it could get to us.

Marijuana was targeted as the standard bearer for the next generation of prohibition because that's what these particular people smoked, and a case had to be made against this practice in order to turn these people into criminals and give the police forces the right and duty to harass and hound them without mercy. Commissioner Anslinger came up with a bunch of non-scientific horseshit to declare that marijuana was a narcotic and its users to be punished under the nation's draconian narcotics laws.

But Anslinger was just making up shit to serve his agenda. Science had nothing to do with it. Physical harm from smoking marijuana was not even alleged. Here are excerpts from Anslinger's testimony to lawmakers in Congress:

"There are 100,000 total marijuana smokers in the US, and most are Negroes, Hispanics, Filipinos, and entertainers. Their Satanic music, jazz, and swing, result from marijuana use. This marijuana causes white women to seek sexual relations with Negroes, entertainers, and any others."

"Marijuana is the most violence-causing drug in the history of mankind.... the primary reason to outlaw marijuana is its effect on the degenerate races.... Marijuana is an addictive drug which produces in its users insanity, criminality, and death....
You smoke a joint and you're likely to kill your brother.... Marihuana leads to pacifism and communist brainwashing....
Reefer makes darkies think they're as good as white men."

There was never a word of truth in the claim that marijuana was a narcotic. It is not a narcotic. It is not toxic. It has



no narcotic properties. It is simply not a narcotic. Yet every successive groups of lawmakers have created intricate systems of laws and punishments predicated on the myth that marijuana is a narcotic, or if no longer a narcotic then a "controlled substance" the use of which must be severely restricted and its users brutally punished by the forces of law and order.

"There was never a word of truth in the claim that marijuana was a narcotic.
It is not a narcotic.
It is not toxic."

Now that these asinine laws are being stripped away and a brighter future begins to dawn from the west, we must remain ever vigilant until our rights and freedoms are fully restored and the police completely removed from the cannabis equation. There is a new petition drive shaping up that aims to strip all language about marijuana from the state statutes and start with a clean slate.

This is an excellent idea, but in the meantime the state and local authorities

across the state of Michigan are enacting new measures to restrict and stringently regulate the grass-roots marijuana dispensaries that have grown up like weeds in our communities.

Instead of introducing legal medical marijuana with a well-thought-out, comprehensive regulatory scheme that would insure that patients get the best weed for the lowest price, they stalled and hemmed and hawed until the people took care of the question for themselves, and now they want to transform it into something completely different from what the voters called for when they passed the citizens' initiative to legalize medical marijuana several years ago.

My time has run out for this month but I'll keep this issue in mind until it's time to write again next month. Meanwhile I'll be passing my 74th birthday on October 2 and celebrating the release of my new book, IT'S ALL GOOD—A John Sinclair Reader from Horner Books in my home town, Flint Michigan. FREE THE WEED!

—Detroit

September 24, 2015

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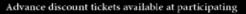






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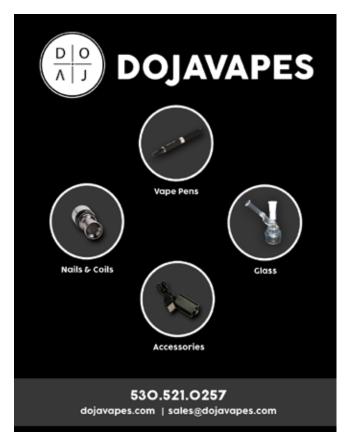


















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The 10th Michigan Medical Marijuana Conference

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These events are smaller than High Times' and offer a much more compassionate price to enter in the contest. Trophies are awarded for best Indica, Sativa, Hybrid, and many other medical categories.

Glassblowers can enter in three different categories and pieces will be judged on site at the event.

Contest entry forms, the latest schedule, and more can be found online at: www.MiMedicalMarijuanaConference.com.

Come for the fun. Get Legal, Educated, Get Growing! We cannot wait to see everyone in Ann Arbor for the 10th Michigan Medical Marijuana Conference.

Schedule of Events*

General admission is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Doors open Friday afternoon Oct. 23rd @ 4:20pm

Saturday, October 24th Doors Open - 10:00am

1:00pm

Cannabis Law Reform Impact Panel

(Free w/general admission)
Panelists include Matt Able, Cary
Justice, Steve Sharp, and Mike Whitty.
Will be discussing what patients,
caregivers, and activists need to know
about cannabis law reform.

Grow Classes - All Day Saturday

\$25 advance / \$30 at the door (all students must have general admission)

11:00am - Grow Room Design Instructor TBA

12:00pm - *Hydroponic Gardening* Instructor TBA

2:30pm - Vermicose Soil w/Tommy Szot

4:00pm - CBD Information w/Mike Thue



5:30pm - Cooking With Cannabis w/Captain Kirk

Sunday, October 25th Doors Open - 10:00am

12:00pm

Michigan & Marijuana Business Seminar

(\$75 w/general admission)
Find out how to open your own medical marijuana dispensary! Information will cover logistics, tax and accounting, legal quidelines, and more!

3:30pm Glass Blowing Award Ceremony

4:45pm 3rd Green Cup Award Ceremony



*Schedule is tentative and subject to change. Classes and instructors are still being finalized.

Go to www.MiMedicalMarijuanaConference.com for the latest news and info.

Contest Entry Drop-Off Locations:

Michigan Organic Solutions 3549 S. Dort Hwy Flint (810) 820-8953

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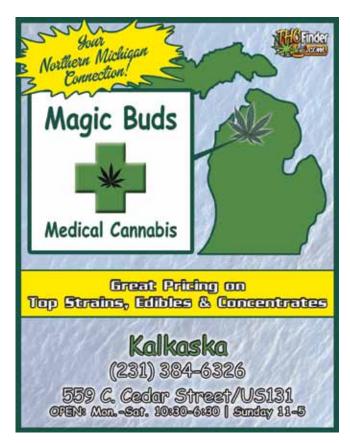
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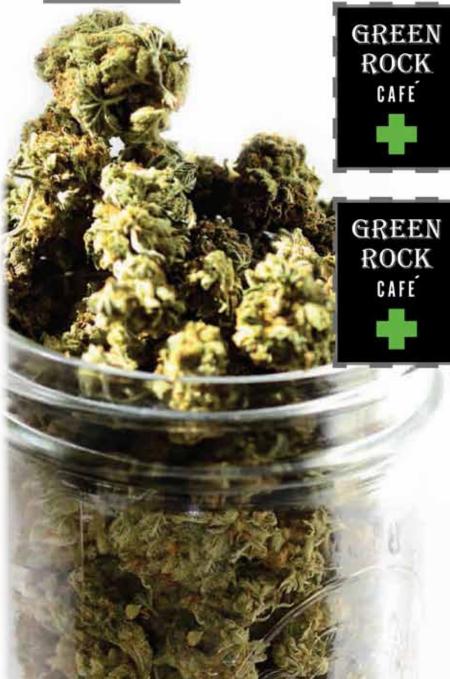


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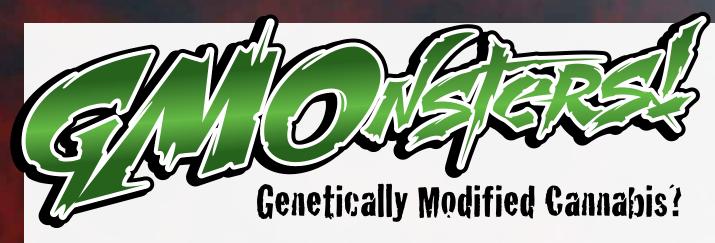






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by Citizen Jay

I'm usually the one who hits the grocery store in my household. It's fun, I've got the time, I like to cook and eat, and I've developed fairly decent shopping habits over the years. My late brother-in-law once told me that if you were having trouble deciding how to spend your hard earned pay, invest in the food you eat. It may seem simple, but given the choice between buying quality food for your family and spending on other things, like for example a monthly family gym membership, choose the food. It goes far beyond, "you are what you eat" to what you eat can really affect the way you feel-in every way: mentally, physically, and spiritually. So make those choices well. [And drink plenty of water.]

Seems simple enough until you actually hit the grocery store. There was a time when I was able to shop with more carte blanche than is available to me these days. Like most, I suppose, our family's economic wellbeing took a downturn sometime around 2007...but I digress. The days of shopping at Whole Paycheck are long past for my family except for the occasional specialty item or quick turn in for a meal on the go. We're still fortunate enough to live in a large city with several other food chains from which to choose. And we live in a part of town that offers multiple outlets. But this is not an article about food choices or the food deserts that exist in many large cities around the country. [Though I can't help but slip in a reference or two whenever the opportunity presents itself just to make sure people are aware that such things DO exist.]

Let me take your imagination down the cereal aisle, if I may. For you see, it is there that the choices become so overwhelming that finding ANY option that is right for your family seems a nightmarish, Herculean task. Most of the aisle is taken up by crap. You know what I'm talking about; the mass produced and marketed to the masses boxes of grain slapped with the faces of cartoon characters promising "healthy" goodness...they're great! [GOD I loved my Lucky Charms as a kid...] These I nonchalantly pass over moving to the last little bit of aisle—the 7/8 at the end where the granolas, muesli, and "natural" brands live (right next to the oatmeal). Ah, cereal heaven. The place where all things good and crunchy are purported to lie. The operative word in that last sentence being "lie." It literally broke my heart when I learned that the majority of my favorite granolas, muesli, and "natural" brands were actually made with GMOs. Ew. When was the last time you tried to find a breakfast cereal without added sugar? Or any kind of corn syrup? It's difficult enough. But when you find those things and then learn that they contain GMO products? I dunno. For me it's still a difficult pill to swallow. I don't want to eat genetically modified organisms.



There is still a ton of misinformation out there on this topic. And I don't profess to be an expert—or even well versed conversationally. But this I do know. We're not talking about modification through selection here. GMOs are not made through breeding. They're made by splicing. A GMO is an organism that has been altered

genetically by manipulating, deleting, or inserting material into its DNA structure. It's SCIENCE extraordinaire! And I commend the effort! I just don't want to eat it.

And I don't want to smoke it either. Genetically modified Cannabis? At this point, you may as well ask me, "What the hell are you talking about?" Because at this point, thankfully, it doesn't exist. But some predict it's inescapably in our future. So what?

Well, it's not so much that I'm afraid of what kind of creepy crawlers may be nano-scopically affixed to my connoisseur budz...hmmm...perhaps we can make them glow with some luminescent jellyfish genes.... It's more that I'm afraid of the creepy crawler businessmen who'd meddle with our sacred herb for profits at the cost of ethics and social responsibility—two things I hold quite dear.

It seems inevitable with the coming of genetic technology and the mapping of genomes that soon someone is going to complete the set for Cannabis. This is happening. And it's going to bring great things. Because the more we come to learn about this miraculous plant, the more we're finding ways in which to use it. And that IS great!

But there are dark forces that would try to exert the power of patent law and proprietorship over that which we hold so dear and are learning how little we still know about. Using minute genetic changes they would create "new" plants that they would subsequently own and control. That's what we need to be leery of. That's what we need to remain vigilant about.

As reported in *High Times*, in 2014, a team of biotech researchers in Portland started mapping the genetic structure of Cannabis. Phylos Bioscience is doing this in an attempt to expressly protect the biodiversity of Cannabis from those who might be tempted to capitalize on its new found legalization to secure exclusive patents on select strains.



We've seen it before with corn. Farmers getting sued by huge agribusiness firms for sowing seeds that somehow manage to cross pollinate their neighbor's patented GMO crops. Many families have been bankrupted, losing their farms to corporate conglomerates whose tactics seem geared more towards monopolistic agricultural hegemony than feeding the world.

This is what Cannabis researchers at Phylos Bioscience are working to stave off. In their view, and I concur, Cannabis is much like corn in terms of its varied commercial/industrial uses and biological diversity. It's too valuable a commodity to allow it to be removed from the "public domain." They fear a privatized sector that would too tightly control the biological potential of the plant. They fear monoculture. And rightly so, from real world experience. This whole thing takes on another twist when you consider that, genetically speaking, it's almost impossible to distinguish between different strains of Cannabis in the same convention that we've become so used to naming them.

As reported in *Wired Magazine* a pair of Canadian botanists compared the genes of approximately 130 Cannabis plants (including hemp) and found that while there is a distinct split between

hemp and sativa/indica plants the genetic difference between what we commonly refer to as "sativa" versus "indica" is much more convoluted. What we know by convention may not express itself genetically. So, for example, according to their research plants like Jamaican Lamb's Bread—Bob Marley's favorite sativa—are virtually indistinguishable genetically from indica strains like Afgani. Interestingly, the researchers don't seem to consider the "entourage" effect, which could account for the phenotypical differences we see expressed without a base line difference in genetic makeup.

In other words, while the plants may be genetically identical the circumstances of their propagation could influence minor differences—such as terpine development—like we see with other species such as roses.

The point is that our technology at this stage may not be sophisticated enough to make meaningful distinctions in the genetic composition of Cannabis at the level needed to conclusively differentiate strains. Regardless, diligence and vigilance demand we protect the entire species for the benefit of us all. Diversity is key. We must keep the Cannabis plant free.





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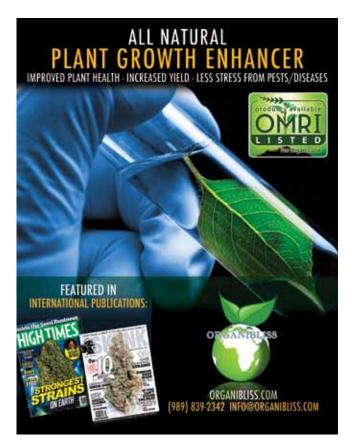








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Plantain







by Rebecca Veenstra

I was watching a lawn company service the neighbor's yard the other day and I started thinking about all the plants in the so called "lawn". That got me to remembering a funny story I heard once from an old timer about his neighbor. Apparently the man's neighbor had been neglecting to cut his grass and the city was sending him citations.

Instead of paying the fines, the gentleman invited the city authority to his house and walked through the yard with him. At each plant (aka: noxious weed), the man's neighbor paused and explained that this particular plant was good for this or that malady. This went on for some time with the city official astounded that all the weeds had such varied uses and benefits. As they neared the edge of the man's yard the official pointed to a small stout plant with straight, thin leaves and asked. "What is this one?"

The neighbor quickly replied. "Oh that? That's grass... I have no idea what that would be good for."

How funny it is that we as a society spend so much time deeming one plant or another a weed. Many times we might just be surprised at what capabilities these plants may have.

> One prime example is Plantain. The Latin. or botanical name, is Plantago Major. The parts used are the herb, root and, seed. This plant self-sows, meaning that it

creates and distributes its own seed in order to propagate.

Historically, plantain is not native to the North American continent. It was brought here by the settlers. The plant adapted quickly to the ecosystem here and is now fairly common.

One of the old folk names for plantain is "white man's foot"-- referring to the manner in which the plant was spread in the trouser cuffs, wagon wheels and horse's hooves of traveling pioneers. However, once plantain became established in North America, one Native American nation gave it a name which translates as "life medicine" -- demonstrating its value as a healing herb. Plantain was also known as "Soldier's Herb" as it was carried by soldiers to treat wounds on the battlefield.

In an untreated lawn it would not be unusual to find several plantain plants. In an urban environment plantain will cling to crevices in the side walk and grow along the sides of buildings. It is an extremely resilient plant.

I have a friend who tells me her Grandmother referred to plantain as the "medicine plant". When she first told me this I thought that was rather vague and all-encompassing. After studying the plant... I would have to agree with her. There are many maladies and symptoms that plantain has been reported to alleviate.

Skin eruptions and irritations would be one of the first and most prevalent uses for plantain. One of the most direct ways to apply the herb to the skin is to attach a leaf to an insect bite with a bandage or bandana. Macerating the plant leaf will make it moister and easier to absorb. Many pioneer stories refer to people chewing the leaf and then applying it to stings, burns, snake bites and ahrasions

Salves and oils containing plantain are commonly used by natural health practitioners to heal skin. A preliminary trial found that topical use of a plantain ointment (10% ground plantain in a base of petroleum jelly) was helpful as part of the treatment of people with impetigo disorders. (1) Plantain is approved by the German Commission E as topical use for skin inflammations. The fresh leaves can be applied directly three or four times per day to minor injuries, dermatitis, and insect stings. (2) Plantain is often combined with other soothing herbs like calendula and lavender to aid in skin healing. One particularly healing herb that combines very well with plantain is Cannabis. Cannabis has a vast library of anecdotal information reputing its benefits for skin irritations and diseases. Many people report feeling relief and even healing from the topical application of cannabis preparations. One study done in Italy concludes that "cannabis could act as a primary treatment for epidermal ailments." (3) So, if you have now wandered out into your yard to take a look for a plantain plant... I'm betting you found one.

If you are game to try harvesting a bit for experimentation you won't need any tools. Just snap a few leaves off with your fingers, being careful not to uproot the plant. Leave the majority of the plant intact and it will continue to grow for you until the end of the

Now that you have a few leaves in your basket or paper bag, you have several choices as to what you could do with them. You could rinse them off, nibble on them as is... or prepare them as greens. Many people enjoy the leaves in a nice salad too. The larger leaves can be bitter. It is best to pick the inner small leaves for eating fresh.

If you are thinking forget the salad... how do I make something for this awful rash? Have no worries, in a matter of a few days you can make yourself a soothing plantain oil right in your own kitchen. What you need to accomplish in order to prepare an ointment is to extract the medicine from the leaves.

In order to prepare a nice cannabis/plantain oil, one suggested recipe to try is this:

1 oz. dried cannabis leaf/trimmings/buds

1 oz. of dried plantain leaf/root

3 oz. of Safflower oil (Safflower oil is reputed to sometimes relieve psoriasis symptoms)

3 oz. of Sweet oil (olive oil)

Once again, you could use more or less of any of the above ingredients. Combine your herb and oil in a slow cooker, induction pan, or yogurt maker. Then, infuse at low temperature (110-120 degrees is ideal) for several hours, even days if you have the time.

A good rule of thumb for a beginner is two days. If you have difficulty controlling the temperature of your mixture though-you may have to strain it earlier. Overheating an herb preparation will likely destroy the beneficial properties.

To strain the oil, a metal mesh strainer is often one of the best methods. Cheesecloth will absorb a good deal of

The old fashioned method would be to pack a jar with herbs and oil to set in the window for a few weeks. Since we live in the modern age though, we have several options to hurry that process along.

The basic idea is to infuse the herb into a preparation you would want to use via direct low heat. Sweet oil (olive oil) or Safflower oil are very good choices. Any oil will work, just pay attention to the scorching temperature. Some oils burn faster than others.

There are many fancy methods to use but one of the simplest methods is slow infusion with a crock pot or yogurt maker. The new induction cookers work marvelously for this process as well.

The amount of herb you have will determine the amount of oil and manner of heating best for your situation. A common ratio for herbal infusions is two ounces of herb to six ounces of oil. This ratio is really just a guideline. Benign herbs like Cannabis and Plantain do not require as strict measurements as herbs that have side effects and drug interactions.

So, Granny calls it the "medicine plant." The Native American's call it "life medicine."

your oil resulting in less for you to use. Strain the oil into a clean jar or bowl. Then discard the herb.

Usually straining several times is necessary. Your oil will spoil if remnants of plant matter remain. Make sure it is crystal clear and void of any contaminants before you put it up to store.

If you find the oil messy, it is simple to create a salve with your herbal oils. This is a pretty easy process. You just heat one ounce of your oil slowly over low heat. Get it hot enough to melt two teaspoons of beeswax into it. Then pour it into a container and cool. When it is fully cooled, you will have a lovely salve.



And you are wondering-- what else can it do besides heal the skin?

Plantain can be made into a tea as well. Many studies have found that it can be beneficial to people with lung conditions. It is considered a soothing herb that has been shown to help people with chronic bronchitis. Plantain is approved by the German Commission E for internal use to ease coughs and mucous membrane irritation associated with upper respiratory tract infections. The German Commission E recommends using 1/4–1/2 teaspoon (1–3 grams) of the leaf daily in the form of tea made by steeping the herb in 1 cup (250 ml) of hot water for 10–15 minutes (making three cups (750 ml) per day). (4)

Plantain is considered a cooling demulcent. That means that overall it has a cooling effect on the body's tissues. The word demulcent means that the plant produces mucilage which is a big word for slippery. The plant will produce a slippery type of substance when it is wet. That slippery substance can be extremely soothing to irritated inflamed tissues. Plantain is a demulcent that has been documented in two preliminary trials conducted in Bulgaria to help people with

chronic bronchitis. (5) Other demulcents traditionally used for people with bronchitis include mullein, marshmallow, and slippery elm. Because demulcents can provoke production of more mucus in the lungs, they tend to be used more often in people with dry coughs

Plantain has historically been used for symptoms like hemorrhoids and urinary tract infections. Some herbalists have written of its benefits for people with stomach issues like ulcers. Of course, using plantain for serious issues like that would require the intervention of a professional. It's never good to self-diagnose internal symptoms. It is always best to ask a doctor first.

The seeds of the plantain plant contain psyllium--which you have probably heard of before. Over the counter fiber supplements are mostly psyllium fiber. So, in theory, if you were to collect enough plantain seeds you might use it as a substitute for the store version.

One of the niftiest things I learned while studying plantain is that it can offset the craving for nicotine. The old school remedy says to chew a few plantain leaves when the urge hits.

Plantain is not associated with any common side effects and is thought to be safe for children. (6) There is no information available about its use by pregnant or nursing women, though topical application appears to be safe.

There are no well-known supplement or food interactions with this herb. It is possible that unknown interactions exist. If you take medication, always discuss the potential risks and benefits of adding a new supplement with your doctor or pharmacist.

Needless to say, sometimes things aren't what they seem. Next time you are out walking around take a look down and see if you don't just run across a plantain in your travels. If you do, pay it some respect for all the fabulous healing capabilities it has. Most of all-- hold back on the round up-- there is no such thing as a noxious weed.

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Rebecca Veenstra is a Chartered Herbalist and founder of New World Seeds in Traverse City, MI

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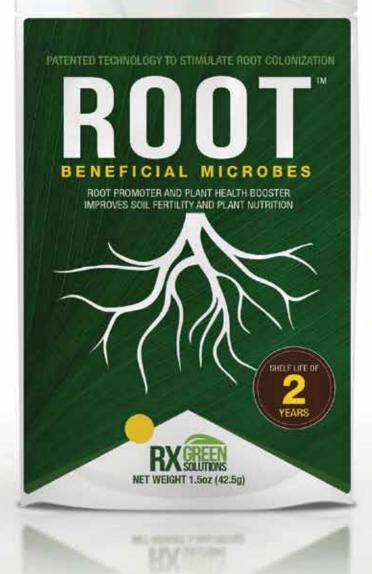


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Strange Facts and Astounding Stories!

by Joe Dauphinais



This Bud's for Ewe

A flock of sheep on Fanny's Farm in Merstham, England found a discarded bundle of cannabis in the pasture and munched down on the herb with gusto. No one knows how the weed got there, but by the time the sheep were discovered eating it, they had already consumed an estimated £4,000 worth of ganja. No negative side effects have been reported. Nellie Budd (I'm not making her name up) the manager of the farm noted that the sheep stumbled around and made strange noises for a while, but were back to normal within a couple hours.



Seven Year Sentence for Selling Soiled Socks

A man from Adrian, Michigan, has been served a sentence of 7 ½ years in prison for

committing fraud through false pretenses. The defendant, Michael Suarez, was found guilty for trying to sell a backpack full of dirty socks instead of the pound of marijuana Suarez had promised.

"He brought socks instead of marijuana. That's the false pretenses," said public defender John Glaser.

The attempted buyers, a married couple, both plead guilty of attempted possession with intent to deliver.

99,208,018:

The estimated weight, in pounds, of global cannabis consumption for the 2004 calendar year, according to the European Monitoring Center for Drugs & Addiction.



'Weed Weddings' on the Rise

Trading in the traditional cocktails for something a little more mellow, some couples are opting to

host cannabis theme weddings to celebrate love for the herb, as well as each other. In states where recreational cannabis has been decriminalized, marijuana wedding planning is becoming a real thing. With accoutrements ranging from THC infused snacks and munchies, bouquets (who wouldn't want to catch one of those?) and decor, some couples have even designated an area for smoking herb at receptions. Several companies have been quick to capitalize on this trend, offering services for everything for a successful weed wedding.



Doomsday Vault Houses Cannabis Seeds

Buried in the side of a mountain on a remote Norwegian island, there are over 21,500 cannabis seeds locked up tight for safe keeping. The huge volcano and earthquake-proof facility also houses the genetics for a wide array of plants that mankind uses for food and medicine. According to *marijuana.com*, there are "more marijuana genetics in the "Doomsday Seed Vault" than there are for artichoke, cranberry and pear combined."



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Yeah we tease him a lot cause we got him on the spot

Welcome back, welcome back, welcome back, welcome back

...Thank you John Sebastian, and THANK YOU to Ben Horner for inviting me back to write a monthly for the MMM Report.

Say what you want about the players involved, the weed scene here in Michigan is on the move. Now most of us see that as a good thing. Some think it should only happen this way or that. There are those of us who have the opinion that anything moving away from jail and prison is a move in the right direction, and a good thing. There are those (like myself) who follow the teachings of Jack Herer:

"I don't want to fucking give this United States government one fucking dollar of taxes..."

– Jack Herer, HASH BASH, April 3rd 2004

We are never all going to agree on how it should be done. We ALL agree it SHOULD be done, and done NOW! We are never ALL going to be happy. Some of our lives will ACTUALLY get better. I am sure, unfortunately, some of us are going to run a foul of LEO, and have to pay the price...

PLEASE remember this.......Things are so much better than when John Sinclair was arrested for those two joints. Or when Operation Green Merchant went down and scared the grow shop industry, or even when Eddy Lepp was sentenced on a 10 year mandatory minimum. BTW - FREE EDDY LEPP!

Why do I say things are better? Because last month both NEWSWEEK and TIME had special editions (at the Price of like \$12 each) with a POT leaf on the cover and the contents being all about the upcoming WEED markets... We have a long way to go but that's ok because CHANGE is coming...

That all being said.... It dawned on me that since I am barred from working in the upcoming legitimate cannabis industry I should offer myself as a spokesman for the BLACK MARKET. "Go with what you know" is what they say, right? So as you find flaws with the laws of the future, know that the BLACK MARKET will be there for you... more to come on that in the future.

This will be a monthly column. I want your participation. Feel free to write me at adamlbrook@hotmail.com or call/text 313-999-0329 with issues you would like me to address.

I will also do some product review. I will only review products I endorse, I am not here to push products...

There will also be a monthly contest emanating from this column each month. The prizes along with the winner will be listed in next months column..... the contest is only open to readers and NOT staff of this magazine. The winner of the contest is the first person who texts the correct answer to: 313-999-0329. There is no warranty or other bullshit implied. It's a contest.... I make the rules. They will be fair.

All you need is the correct answer to this question: Who introduced The Jackson 5 to Motown?

Peace,

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Taxes? We Don't Need No Stinkin' Taxes!

by Daniel L. Price, Esq.

It is here again...the political season. There are a number of proposals for which various groups are attempting to obtain signatures in order to have a vote for the legalization of marijuana in Michigan. I do not know, nor do I have any connection with, any of these groups or their proposals. However, since these proposals are about marijuana, and this is an article about marijuana and the law, I thought I might make this month's article about the legalization of marijuana.

If you are a reader of this article, you already know that I advocate for everyone's right to self-determination ("freedom"), period. In our state and in our country there are those who desire

> take our freedom from us. After all. that is why there are laws against ingesting a naturally growing

plant that provides medicinal relief for pain as well as many other physical ailments, with little to no side effects. Yet, at the same time, currently "legal" prescription medications are known to cause severe addiction, can maim and slowly kill. As a result, I am all for the legalization of marijuana, because it recognizes and furthers our freedom.

It is true, it would also save many people from the harmful side-effects, addictions, and sometimes death caused by "legally" prescribed toxic medications. However, it is our freedom that is the most important issue. Because of this, the issue of marijuana legalization is the issue of our freedom. As a result, which particular petition is passed is also very important because, while a vote to legalize marijuana could further our freedom, it has the potential to further destroy our freedom. So, whether any proposal furthers or destroys our freedom depends upon what else is included in the particular proposal.

For instance, would you vote





for the destruction of your right to self-determination so long as you can ingest marijuana? Would you say to government actors, "please let me ingest marijuana without fear of prosecution, I promise I will let you make me your servant and provide for your desires and needs, just let me ingest marijuana". If your answer to those two questions is "Hell No!", then you may wish to really think about any proposals for the legalization of marijuana before you vote.

Let me explain. If a proposal would legalize marijuana, and do nothing else, then it is a proposal which advocates for, and would further our freedom. This is because the right to self-determination also includes the right to ingest whatever one wishes to ingest. However, if a proposal would legalize marijuana, and also tax marijuana, then that poses a serious threat to our freedom. This is so because advocating legalization and at the same time taxation of marijuana, affirms that you do not have a "right" to ingest...a "right" to be free. But worse, it also affirms that you do not have any rights, but that you only have privileges allowed by government actors'. And more, that you can only obtain these privileges by giving them permission to force you to provide for their desires and needs.

Now, ask yourself again, would you say to a government actor, "please let me ingest marijuana without fear of prosecution, I promise I will let you make me your servant and provide for your desires and needs, just let me ingest marijuana". If your answer is still "Hell No!", then you might wish to really think about voting for any proposal that taxes marijuana, in exchange for legalizing it. In fact, it just might boil down to either voting for legalization and the further destruction of freedom now, or waiting to vote for the legalization of marijuana and our freedom at a later date. If it

does come down to this, you may wish to wait until a proposal that supports freedom, rather than denies freedom, is put before the voters, before you vote to legalize marijuana.

We do live in a society in which government actors are constantly trying to rob us of our rights. But also in our society there are many people who claim to support, but are actually destroying, our freedom. This may be due to a lack of understanding. It may also be done by design. However, it does not matter why, or how it happens, it is still the destruction of freedom. This is why I always say that if we do not consistently assert the right to self-determination for all, even those with whom we do not agree, our own freedom will be destroyed. On the issue of voting for the legalization of marijuana, asserting your right to your freedom can only be done by voting for the legalization of marijuana, without also voting for any form of taxation. Till next month, by all means, keep rolling on.

Disclaimer: This is an informational article only. It is not to provide individual legal advice. If you need legal services, feel free to contact me, or any attorney of your choosing.

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Storthe Baids



SANE



by Hemptress Jolene

Emmet County Michigan- Protesters in Emmet County gathered twice this last month outside the County's main building on Division Street in downtown Petoskey. The group was there demonstrating to protest the county's continued use of the local narcotics team, SANE, on cardholding medical patients and caregivers. SANE is the Straights Area Narcotics Enforcement team, a multi-jurisdictional task force that investigates criminal and drug activity in Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, Luce, Mackinac, and Ostego counties. The group opposed to SANE's raids first gathered on September 3rd, 2015 and then again on September 17th. They cited their main goal being to end the use of SANE raids in their county. The group hopes also that the county wide dispensary moratorium will be lifted. James Dyer, a group representative and resident of Cross Village explained, "Criminals are still people too and nonviolent cannabis users do NOT deserve to have their doors kicked down for growing medicine, especially if they have their cards and are part of the medical marihuana program here in Michigan."

Dyer and many other members of the protest (some who wish not to be named because of their cases), became involved when their houses and the houses of friends and family where raided by SANE in April of this year. In several cases, senseless items like children's toys and ipads were seized, and Enforcement team members behaved like thugs, breaking valuable items and trashing children's rooms. The ultimate upset to the group was the disrespect for the ashes of a loved one from one of the homes.

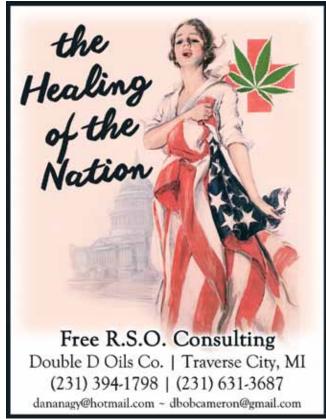
After the first protest, members from the group were featured on the Ron Jolly Show where they were joined by Charmie Gholson of Mom's United to End the Drug War, who had been helping activists and raid victims organize since the first raids occurred back in March/April. During the week leading up to the second protest, SANE was quite active out in Cross Village, raiding several of Dyer's carded family members as well as several other outdoor grows in the area. The full extent of everyone affected is not yet known.

On the 17th, Emmet county protestors were joined by Alan Witt and several other victims of the Gaylord raids, all were speaking out together against SANE, their tactics, and their continued raids on carded patients, caregivers and their families. "The access to medicine is pretty much gone up here. Our closest dispensaries are Mancelona and Traverse City, so if you don't have a caregiver connected to you through the registry you're pretty much out of luck. Or you're asking someone to step outside the law, at least the way the courts are currently reading the law," said a victim and representative of Northern Michigan Court Support. The protests have been supported by Northern Michigan Court Support and Moms United to End the Drug War. The groups plan to continue organizing against SANE, and cite some of their next steps as petitioning the city, and working with the local commissioners to have a retroactive moratorium on cannabis raids in Emmet County.

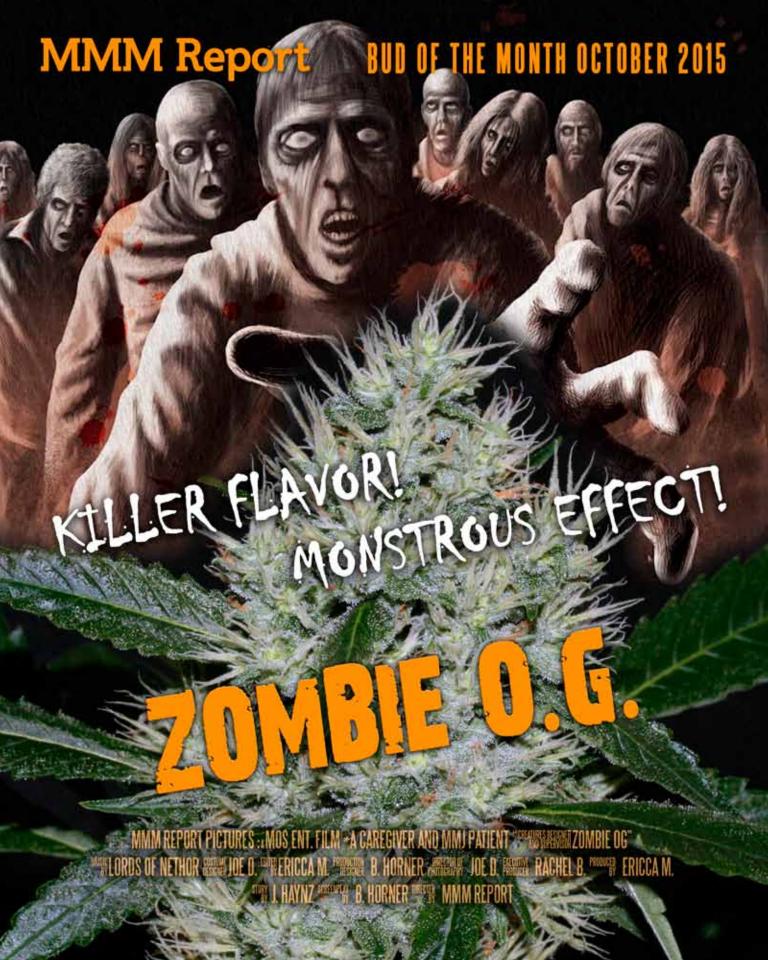
To connect with the groups find them on facebook via Northern Michigan Court Support or hashtags #shameonsane and #stoptheraids.

















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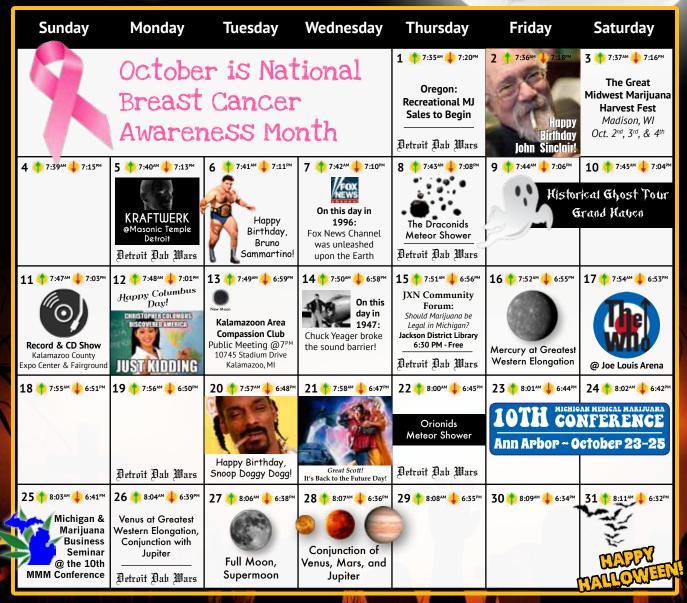
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THE JONES

LEGEND of the ANCIENT HERB

Episode 8: Smokerstitions



Halloween is right around the corner, so this month's article will focus on some of the creepier superstitions and legends surrounding cannabis culture worldwide. Like any superstition, sometimes there is a logical origin for the belief, and some are completely absurd. Some of these stories were likely made up by some toker fresh off the dank, yet these stories still end up getting passed around like joints at a Cyprus Hill show. These legends tend to circulate and transcend generations until the true origin of the custom becomes lost to myth. A good example of this is the ubiquitous number 420 that surrounds our culture. While there are several stories as to how this number became a thing, some claim it is the police code for possession, while others conjecture that the code originated as a time where students would meet to smoke after school. Some say that 4:20 is tea time in Holland, others say that there are 420 active chemicals in marijuana. Whatever the actual truth is, we may never know, but anyway, please enjoy these Halloween smokerstitions.



This one changes depending on who you talk to. In some circles a black lighter is unlucky, while others avoid red ones. Yet the white lighter seems to be the most prevalent source of bad mojo. One possible reason for this belief is that when the disposable bic lighter came out, it was only available in two colors, black or white. If a smoker used the bottom of a white lighter to tamp out a bowl, the carbon scoring would be a sure sign to police that the owner of the lighter smoked weed, while the black lighter was better at concealing the ash.

Another possible (albeit more morbid) reason for this belief comes from the deaths of four famous musicians. Jim Morrison, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, and Kurt Cobain, who all died at the age of 27. All four were left handed. And, according to the myth, all four supposedly had white bic lighters on them when they died.



Tip a Canoe

Canoeing in this case is the uneven burning of a joint or blunt, which starts to take on the shape of a canoe. Also referred to as 'running'. Some say it is unlucky to hit a canoeing joint without attempting to fix it.



THC Worms

It is uncertain how exactly the legend of THC Worms was born, but the story goes that there are worms that live on cannabis plants, and feed on THC, which becomes concentrated in their bodies, adding an extra 'kick' for the smoker who happens upon some of these creatures in

their buds. It should be noted that the THC Worm is unknown to science, and has yet to be documented. One hypothesis behind the birth of this legend is that a newbie smoker once complained to their hookup of the stash being infested with caterpillars, and in order to save face, the dealer fed them a line about the worms being concentrated, and instructed the client to smoke them with the weed. As strange as it is, this story crops up often in smoking circles and internet discussion forums. Some strongly insist that finding worms in weed is good luck.

Note: The *MMM Report* strongly discourages patients from smoking any foreign objects they might find in their cannabis. Especially worms.



Never Name a Bong

Although humorous, naming a glass piece can be an invitation for disaster. Some smokers swear that if you name a glass piece, it will surely be broken. And while every frat house in America at some point

probably had a piece named Wesley Pipes, superstition warns that giving a name to a smoking piece is almost like a curse. And although it may be tempting to name that killer new glass something clever like Billy Bong Thorton, Dank Sinatra, or George W. Kush, some strongly discourage this practice as you will surely be sweeping up the remaining shards of that pipe in due time. They say that even a premium name like Bongkey Kong or Tim Tebowl won't save your pipe from the curse.



Move it on Your Left

Quick question: which way do you pass in a smoking circle? If you answered left, you are in the majority of tokers. There have been many references to passing to the left in pop culture, especially in the 1982 hit by

reggae band *Musical Youth*. If you've never heard the song *Pass the Dutchie on the Left Hand Side*, set this magazine down right now and YouTube it. We'll wait...

Catchy tune, yeah? Rastas pass to the left when discussing important matters, and only pass to the right in times of war or distress. Coincidentally, it was common for Native Americans to face north when sharing a peace pipe, and pass it to the left because the sacrament had to follow the direction of the sun or negative consequences could result. Other smokers in general pass to the left because it is easy to remember, and causes the rotation to go clockwise.



Beware the Duppies

In Jamaica and other parts of the Bahamas, there are tales of evil spirits called 'duppies'. A duppy can take on different forms, appearing as animals, people, monsters or disembodied spirits. Among other superstitions surrounding duppies, it is believed that if you light a pipe at night with

a match, never throw the match on the ground, as this act can summon a duppy, causing chaos to the hapless smoker and those around them. Duppies have been referenced numerous times in reggae music, one popular example is found in the lyrics for the Bob Marley song, *Mr. Brown*:

O-o-oh, calling duppy conqueror,

I'm the ghost-catcher!

This is your chance, oh big, big Bill bull-bucka,

Take your chance! Prove yourself! Oh, yeah!



Don't Smoke the Seed



Most seasoned tokers know that it is bad form to leave a seed in a bowl or a joint, as they can explode, and they taste miserable. But did you know it may be bad luck to smoke cannabis seeds? As quoted in the Michael Palmer song *Smoke the Weed*:

"Smoke the weed, don't smoke the seed, 'cuz if you smoke the seed, you're going kill the breed."

This saying can be taken two ways. One is in the literal sense that seeds should be planted instead of smoked in order to preserve the genetics. The figurative sense is that humanity is sometimes referred to as 'the seed' and so one might be figuratively endangering mankind by burning cannabis seeds.

Three on a Match

If you find yourself and two other people getting ready to smoke, this superstition says that you should never light up all three on the same match. Also known as third on a match, or the unlucky third light, this belief has several possible origins.

One theory is that this superstition originated between the Crimean War and WWI among soldiers who believed that the third guy to light from the match was a target for sniper fire. Upon the first smoke being lit, the light would get a snipers attention. Once the second cig was ignited, a sniper could zero in on the area. The third ember to light would be the one to get capped. Another explanation is that the Swedish match tycoon Ivar Kreuger made up the story in order to get people to use more matches.

A third possible origin refers to a Russian funeral ritual in which three candles are lit from one. Mimicking this with a match and three smokeables is said to bring misfortune.

MMM Report Feature Artist:

rother

by Hemptress Jolene

Hot on the festival scene this summer is "Oh Brother, Big Sister". There have been multiple times at the festivals this year that this festi-villian has been caught up in a moment and stopped to groove to these guys. A duo of siblings Penny and Radel Rosin, Oh Brother Big Sister create beautiful music with their natural talent and love they share for each other. This group is a true tribute to sibling-ship and what a beautiful thing it can be when a talented family joins together to make music. Their catchy covers and ingenious harmonies are great no matter how you hear them, but their energy together is something truly magical to see live.

Armed mainly with a quitar, their voices and a loop machine, this duo brings a big sound with them, everywhere they go. It seems they are unafraid to cover any genre and have a great respect for all music. I have seen them tactfully tackle a number of great songs from classics like "Hit the Road Jack" to today's top ten, and it is great every time. I have even caught myself singing to some pop song that I would have found annoying before they covered it. That is the sign of great musicians!

Hailing from a musical family and a small town somewhere in the mitten, the big sister, little brother pair just released an EP this summer called Thanks and Praises which featured five songs that will be on their up coming all original album set for release this fall. One

single off the album, "MIND" is already available for purchase on i-tunes. I know that this music connoisseur hopes that Santa will bring a new Oh Brother, Big Sister CD so that it can be shared with all the musical people I love in my life.

One of the best things about Oh Brother, Big Sister, is that they are appropriate for every age, and every scene, they are truly musical chameleons and it can be seen in their schedule. These siblings have been everywhere in Michigan this summer from brewery's all over the state to the Farmfest Kid's Stage. They will be shaking up Idaho with their cousins Barsie, another sibling band, in October, along with hitting Dear Bear Brewing in Grayling twice, and rocking out Union Street in Traverse City at the end of the month. November

will be full of visits to great musical venues for these two, so look for them at Rubbles in Mount Pleasant, City park Grill in Petoskey, or Studio Anatomy in Traverse City. To learn more about them, check out their website: www.ohbrotherbigsister.com.











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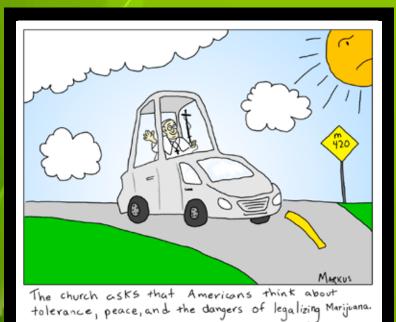




Two stoners meet on a dusty country road. One of them is carrying a big bag labeled, "chickens."

"Chickens, eh?" says the first stoner. "Hey man, if I guess how many chickens you got, will you give me one?"

"Heck," says the stoner carrying the bag, "if you guess right, I'll give you both of 'em."









B

CAPRICORN

(Jan 20 - Feb 16)
You complain about
everything and everyone
is tired of listening to your
problems.

W

&UIRAUQA,

(Feb 16 - Mar 11)
You only have friends on
the internet, but not in
reality.

)(

PISCES

(Mar 11 to Apr 18)
You are in need of
everything similar to a
small child and since you
don't live with your mom
anymore things for you
have gotten worse.

Y

ARIES (Apr 18 - May 13)

Sometimes, you are wrong and the things you say sound pretty ignorant and nobody wants to tell you to your face, so they just wait patiently until you are quiet.



TAURUS

(May 13 - June 21)
You have been hiding in
the closet for too long.
Someone is going to come
and drag you out and
shine the spotlight on you
for everyone to see.

I

GEMINI

(June 21 - Jul 20)
You tell so many stories
and fibs that nobody
knows what's real and
what isn't, and listening to
you is like listening to a
boy who cried wolf.



CANCER

(Jul 20 - Aug 10)
It's time to give your
partner space because
they cling on way to
hard. Sometimes creating
distance can create a
break up and then you two
can go your separate ways.

က

LEO

(Aug 10 - Sep 16)
Being arrogant, selfcentered & egotistical
isn't going to get you
anywhere in life except a
flat tire on a square rim.

M

VIRGO

(Sep 16 - Oct 30)
If you can't appreciate
what you have, you will
lose it and someone else
will happily get to enjoy
your luxuries.

Ω

LIBRA

(Oct 30 - Nov 23)
You are the laughing
subject to the whole
crowd you have been
talking to your whole life
and they never really liked
you to begin with.

M

SCORPIO

(Nov 23 - Nov 29)
You are way too bossy to someone you really don't have any authority over and will get the worse karma you ever had in your whole life.

IJ

ОРНІИСНИЯ

(Nov 29 - Dec 17)
Being a good listener
doesn't help if you can't
pay attention to anything.

X

SAGITIARIUS

(Dec 17 - Jan 20)
You are really slow at
most things that you do
and it's hard for anyone to
get you to improve.

MMM Report Directory

SAFE TRANSFER POINTS

223 Boutique & Compassion Center 223 E. State St, Traverse City

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The Green Bean East

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The Green Room

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<u>TNT</u>

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Natural Relief Health Center

by Cannabis naturalreliefhealthcenter.com (586) 344-3914

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Grand Rapids Alternative Care

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Helping Hands Emporium

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Marijuanadoctors.com

1(800) 991-0473

Michigan Wellness Center

3095 S. Dye, Flint Township (810) 820-8555

MOS Doctor Certifications

3553 S. Dort, Flint (810) 820-8953

TNT MMMP Resource Center

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Daniel L. Price

liberty13legaldefense.com (734) 945-1535

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Leaf Doctor

leafdoctor1@gmail.com

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To list your business in the directory call: 810-820-8953 or email: mmmreport@gmail.com

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Fenton Hydroponics & Garden Center

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